



**Houston Area
Urban League**

*Empowering Communities
Changing Lives*

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A United Way Agency
Affiliated With The
National Urban League

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August 22, 2014

Tom Wheeler, Chairman
Federal Communications
Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: MB Docket No. 14-57

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

At the Houston Area Urban League, Inc. (Urban League), we are proud to affiliate with organization, whether for profit or non-profit, that work to create a more equitable society. The mission of the Urban League is to enable African-American and other minorities to secure economic self-reliance, parity, power and civil rights. We partner with Comcast because their work as servants in the community and aim to educate and uplift directly align with our work. I support the proposed transaction between Comcast and Time Warner Cable because I applaud their work on inclusive media and diversity initiatives.

In America, we know that a better education and better resources are integral parts of securing a better career and life. However, many of our black communities statistically, lag behind. To correct this issue, the Urban League developed a STEM education program to help improve the math and science skills of young people of color. Comcast contributes towards this goal with their Internet Essentials program, which works towards the goal of closing the digital divide with discounted broadband for low-income families. If a student qualifies for free or reduced school lunch, the family qualifies to apply for Internet Essentials, which costs less than ten dollars a month. About 30% of Americans are on the wrong side of the digital divide, many of whom live below the poverty line. This program addresses a boundary which puts too many children at an educational disadvantage. If the proposed transaction was approved, Internet Essentials would become available to many more families in need, including our neighbor to the North, Dallas, TX.

In addition to greater broadband adoption in low income communities, Comcast has helped to broaden our initiatives in healthcare and equal opportunity. In 2011, Comcast provided the National Urban League with airtime for the "I Am Empowered" campaign. This campaign called on community members to pledge their support, time and talent to ensure that every American has access to good jobs, a quality education, affordable housing and quality and affordable healthcare. This message would not have been able to be delivered without the help of our friends at Comcast. Furthermore, Comcast employs their digital literacy training in centers across Houston. Here, families can attend free classes on computer basics in order to learn how to best utilize technology for healthcare, education, employment and communication. Comcast also reflects these goals on a personal level, through the commitment of their employees. Every year, Comcast employees donate their time on "Comcast Cares Day," where we have hosted volunteer activities at the Urban League.

At the Urban League, we are empowered to make a difference; to close the digital divide; to build 21st Century communities; and to educate minority communities that are often disenfranchised. We are grateful to Comcast for being a part of this journey to also educate and empower our people.

I am proud to add my name to those who support Comcast Corporation joining with Time Warner Cable. I know that this transaction would only enhance the company's community partnerships and I urge you to approve this agreement.

Sincerely,

Judson W. Robinson III
President & CEO